GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:207
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2000
DESERTIFICATION IN STATES
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-aridTropics ropose to work in coordination with the Union Government to tackle the problem of desertification in various states particularly Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan and other parts in the country;

(b) if so, whether desertification is the major cause of concern for India;

(c) if so, whether a proposal for joint efforts was discussed in the meeting of the Joint Policy Advisory Committee of the ICAR and ICRISAT held in Delhi in May 2000; and

(d) if so, the outcome of the discussions held?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (Shri Babulal Marandi)

(a), (b), (c) and (d) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has collaborative projects with the International Crops Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), relating to plant breeding and management of natural resources.The Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) Hyderabad, ICAR also has projects with ICRISAT on watershed management.These projects would contribute to combating desertification. In the meeting of ICRISAT and ICAR held in May 2000, the discussion covered strengthening of research on natural resources management in collaboration with CRIDA Hyderabad.